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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/073,748

05/06/1998

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119645-00103.12

1160

64574

7590

05/23/2008

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EXAMINER

COLBERT, ELLA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3696

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/23/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/073,748	Applicant(s) WEISSMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner Ella Colbert	Art Unit 3696	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 January 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 133, 134, 136-142, 144-150 and 152-189 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) See Continuation Sheet is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 139, 147, 155, 173, 180, and 187 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Continuation of Disposition of Claims: Claims rejected are 133,134,136-138,140-142,144-146,148-150,152-154,156-172,174-179,181-186,188 and 189.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 133, 134, 136-142, 144-150, and 152-189 are pending. Claims 133, 134, 139-142, 147-150, 155, 156, 163, 166, 169, 173, 176, 180, 183, and 187 have been amended in this communication filed 1/07/08 entered as Response After Non-Final Action and Request for Extension of Time.

The claim objections in the prior Office Action for claims 133, 134, 139, 140, 163, 169, and 173 have been overcome by Applicants' amendment to claims 133, 134, 139, 140, 163, 169, and 173 and are hereby withdrawn.

The 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection in the prior Office Action for claim 166 has been overcome by Applicants' amendment and is hereby withdrawn. However, after a thorough review of the claims there are still remaining 35 USC 112 issues as set forth here below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 133, 134, 136-138, 140-142, 144-146, 148-150, 152-154, 156-172, 174-179, 181-186, 188, and 189 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 133 recites "generating the business using the semantic definitions ... such that the business database is well-formed". This recitation is not in agreement

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with independent claims 163 and 166. The claim recitation should recited “generating the business ... automatically using the semantic definitions, whereby the business database system is well-formed. Claims 140, 141, 148, 149, and 156 have a similar problem.

Claim 133 recites “providing a metadata system that includes a metadata schema, a facility for entering instructions into the metadata schema, and ...”; Receiving instructions including semantic definitions from a user, wherein the instructions including semantic definitions; and generating the business database system automatically using the semantic definitions of the instructions ...”. It is unclear, vague, and indefinite as to what “instructions” are being referenced. Do Applicants’ mean “instructions for generating one or more database systems” or something else?

Claim 134 recites “generating tables automatically according to the instructions”. This claim limitation is unclear, vague, and indefinite because it cannot be determined what instructions are being referenced. Do Applicants’ mean the “instructions are semantic definitions” or something else? Claims 136-138, 140-142, 144-146, 148-150, 152-154, 156-172, 174-179, 181-186, 188, and 189 have a similar problem.

Applicants’ are respectfully requested to point out where a business database system is found in the specification. There is nothing found in the specification that references a business database system. There are elements that might suggest a business database system but nothing specific referencing a business database system as such.

Specification

The specification is objected to because on page 11, line 10, reciting “are set up, arid a query mechanism is generated”. It is unclear whether the term “arid” is supposed to be in that sentence or did Applicants’ mean something else?. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Applicants’ method for “generating the business database system automatically using the semantic definitions, whereby the business database system is well-formed in claims 133, 140, and 163 and computer system, and computer readable storage medium for “automatically generating the business database system using the semantic definitions, whereby the business database system is well-formed” in claims 141, 148, 149, and 156 with the other claim limitations would be allowable once the claim objections are overcome and the claim rejection for claim 166 is resolved and if there is no new art found to reject the claims after an updated search has been performed.

Conclusion: The Examiner apologizes for the delay in issuing the application. However, these issues need to be resolved prior to issue of the application.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Michael Krippendorf and Il-Yoel Song; "The Translation of Star Schema into Entity-Relationship Diagrams" disclosed the star schema defined.

Matteo Golfarelli, Dario Maio, and Stefano Rizzi: "Conceptual Design of Data Warehouses from E/R Schemes" disclosed a graphical conceptual model for DW's, called Dimensional Fact (DF) model.

Ralph Kimball, "DBMS online Data Warehouse Architect: Is Data Staging Relational? Or does it have more to do with sequential processing?" disclosed a data staging area is the data warehouse workbench.

Ralph Kimball, "DBMS online Turbocharge Your Query Tools", disclosed simple SQL statements.

Star Schema Form Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, discusses the definition of a star schema, data warehouse schemas, fact tables, dimension tables, primary key, second normal form, and third normal form.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ella Colbert whose telephone number is 571-272-6741. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 5:30AM-3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dixon Thomas can be reached on 571-272-6803. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ella Colbert/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3696

March 31, 2008